(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any enquiry has been conducted so as to ascertain the circumstances under which the question papers got leaked out;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) what action Government have taken to ensure that incidence of such leakage does not recur in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) A total number of 29,349 candidates appeared for the M.B.B.S. Entrance Examination for admission to M.B.B.S. course of AIIMS held on 1st June, 2001.

(b) It is not true that the question paper of the pre-medical test were leaked out.

(c) to (e) There was a news item in the Asian Age on 2nd June, 2001 'AIIMS Pre-Med. Test leaks during exam'. Enquires were conducted and it was found that a candidate from Exam Centre at Janakpuri, New Delhi had taken some sheets from Question Booklet. The matter was reported to the Police and a communication was also sent to the candidate. The relevant document from the candidate were handed over to the Police authorities.

(f) To prevent recurrence of such events, strict instructions would be issued to centre authorities.

Smoking by school going children

811. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to recent study conducted in Delhi almost 11 to 14 per cent school going children take to smoking;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to check this practice; and

(c) whether Government propose to enact a law forbidding the sale of tobacco products to minors as in the developed countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) It is a fact that a certain proportion of School going Children do take to smoking.

The Government has introduced a comprehensive legislation for discouraging the use of tobacco products, which, *inter-alia*, includes measures such as ban on sale of tobacco products to minors and total ban on advertising of tobacco products, in the Rajya Sabha on 7th March, 2001. The Bill is presently being examined by the Department related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development of Rajya Sabha.

Government is also taking measures to make young people aware of the dangers of tobacco use through campaigns on Television, Radio and Print Media.

Filling of reserved posts for SCs/STs/OBCs

†812. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether posts reserved for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes in his Ministry and its attached offices have been filled;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps Government are taking in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The nominations to various Groups 'A', 'B', 'C' and 'D' posts under this Ministry is being made by SSC/UPSC etc. The shortfall had arisen due to the non-availability of suitable reserved candidates in various categories. All out efforts are being made to fill the reserved posts by sending requisitions to various recruiting

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†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.